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Dear Winter National Participants,

It is almost time for the NJSA Winter National that will take place at the Georgia National Agricenter & Fairgrounds(GNFA) in Perry, GA, January 12-16,2026! To make this event run smoothly, please read a few reminders listed below. Included in this email will be an unloading map as well as barn maps ( please be aware that the barn layouts may change upon arrival)

### General Reminders

1. Hogs may begin arriving at the fairgrounds at 4 pm. on Monday, January 12 for those that purchase early trailer unloading spots if you did not purchase an early trailer spot earlier unloading will begin Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 AM and must be in place by Tuesday January 13, 2026, at 6 p.m.
2. **Due to space limitations, we will be assigning pens as exhibitors arrive based on the number of pigs each family brought to the show. It will be mandatory that exhibitors within the same family pen two pigs per pen (excluding boars).**
3. **PLEASE** inform NJSA staff if your plans have changed, and you will not be attending or bringing the number of animals you have entered for the event.
4. State health officials and NJSA show officials will inspect animals and Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) prior to unloading animals.
5. Please remember to bring a pen divider as exhibitors are required to pen two pigs per pen, with families penning together and barrows and gilts penning together. The size of one pen is 6' x 6'. Some pens will be 5x5.
6. Registration will take place from Noon- 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13.
7. Each exhibitor must have their **registration papers, original CVI that has been approved by state health officials or NJSA show officials and a copy of their PQA Plus certificate or card** present at registration. Please bring a photocopy of the registration papers along with the originals to speed up the registration process.
8. Photocopies of approved original CVIs will be made for each exhibitor during check-in.
9. All exhibitors at any NJSA event MUST be PQA Plus or YQCA certified. **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (age 8+) training is available to be completed online at: <http://yqca.org/>**  
\*Adult PQA Training (under age 8 must have adult represented certification) and will be available at 3:30 PM on 1/14 and YQCA Training (age 8+) will immediately follow.
10. NJSA age divisions are Novice (8 & under); Junior (9-12); Intermediate (13-16); and Senior (17-21).
- \*All ages are as of Jan. 1, 2026\***
11. All animals are released once they are done showing – **EXCEPT** All breed champions and reserves must stay until the completion of their respective grand drives or they will forfeit their awarded premiums.

## Show Requirements

1. Showmanship will be held on Wednesday, January 14 at 1pm. Showmanship will show in the order of Senior, Intermediate taking place in New South Arena and Junior, Novice in the Beef & Dairy Show ring. At the conclusion of Novice Showmanship, the Bred and Owned gilt show will begin in New South Arena.
2. The Purebred Gilt show will be held on Thursday, January 15 beginning at 8 a.m. New South Arena breeds will be Duroc, Hereford, Poland China, Yorkshire, Light Cross and Division 2 Dark Gilts. The Beef and Dairy Barn Arena breeds will be Berkshire, Chester, Hampshire, Landrace, Spot, Tamworth, Pure Influence, Division 1 and 3 Dark Cross Gilts. Gilt Grand drive at the completion of the show in New South Arena.
3. The Barrow show will be held on Friday, January 16 beginning at 8 a.m. . New South Arena breeds will be Duroc, Chester, Hereford, Landrace, Spot, Tamworth, Light Crossbred barrows as well as Division 2 dark crossbred barrows. Showing in the beef and dairy arena will be Berkshire, Hampshire, Poland China, Yorkshire, Pure Influence and Divison 1 dark cross barrows. Barrows must weigh between 215-290 lbs. and will have a 15 lb. weigh-back with the Barrow grand drive at the completion of the barrow show in New South Arena.

## Contest Information

1. The Skillathon competition will be held on Wednesday, January 14 from 8-10 a.m. All participants must be checked in by 9:30 a.m.
2. Skillathon review will be held from 11:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.
3. Sweepstakes contest points will be awarded in the purebred gilt/barrow show, showmanship contest and skillathon contest. Exhibitors must compete in showmanship, skillathon contest and either the pure gilt or pure barrow show to qualify for the sweepstakes contest. The exhibitors' highest placing purebred barrow OR purebred gilt will count toward the sweepstakes contest, NOT both. All participants in the sweepstakes contest MUST complete the entire skillathon contest.
4. The National Swine Registry Executive Committee has voted to implement the weighing of ALL junior purebred gilts. All exhibitors will be required to go to one of the designated scales in the barn for breed eligibility checks and be weighed by NSR staff members during the designated time as posted on the schedule. Weight cards will be obtained once the gilt is weighed at the scale.
5. Junior purebred gilts classes will be broken first by month of birth, then by weight within month of birth.

## Additional Information

1. The Awards Ceremony will be on Friday, January 16 thirty minutes after the conclusion of the Barrow show in the Beef & Dairy Show ring. Any contest awards not picked up will be mailed.

We are excited to be heading to Perry! If you have any questions, please contact the Youth Activities and Programs Manager at [carinv@nationalswine.com](mailto:carinv@nationalswine.com) or 765.463.3594. See you in Georgia!

Sincerely,

*Carin Vickrey*

Carin Vickrey  
Youth Activities and Programs Manager  
National Swine Registry